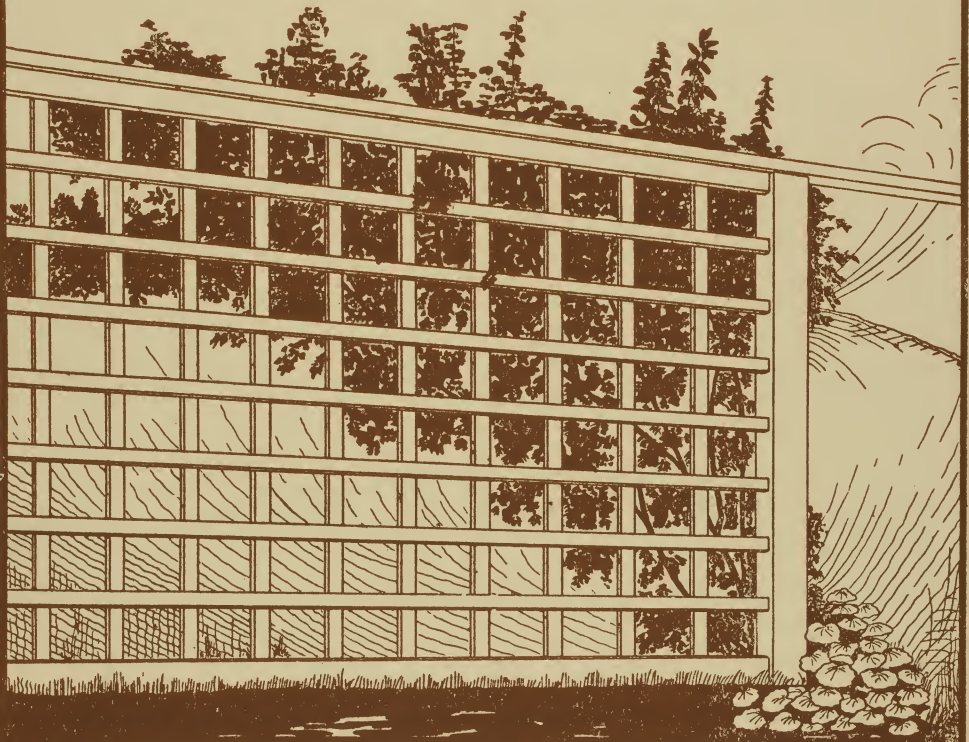


California Garden



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LATHHOUSE

MAY 1924

TEN CENTS



Garden Suggestions

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The California Garden

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No. 11

CONSCIENCE VISITS MY GARDEN

Mira C. Saunders
580 No. Lake Ave., Pasadena.

It often happens that in one's garden unexpected sidelights are thrown upon the temperaments of one's friends, and I am sure as we work there our thoughts are often busy with bits of conversation which have occurred in connection with some particular plant or scheme of color, recalling incidents frequently so amusing we find ourselves smiling quite openly.

My Iris Germanica never blooms in all its hybrid resplendence that I do not recall the first season of this triumph of loveliness. It was impossible to enjoy it properly alone, so one afternoon I telephoned to a friend, urging her to come over right away for fear by another day one rainbow shade might be missing. She promptly complied, and I led her through the garden gate down to the Iris-bordered walks. To my surprise there was no exclamation of pleasure or delight at that startling array of color. I regarded my friend in wondering disappointment only to see her gaze passing indifferently over the Iris to my bit of a rose garden, and then came the unexpected remark:

"Do you realize that you haven't picked off your dead roses for days? Why, I go out every morning with a basket and scissors and remove mine; it makes the blooming season so much longer."

A reply failed me and we continued our walk for a little while, but my steps were purposely directed to the garden gate, where my friend bid me good-bye, never having once mentioned the Iris. I hurried back to my beds of varied loveliness, thinking I should ask their pardon, but a shaft of late-afternoon sunlight had fallen across them making it seem as though they were holding some sort of a carnival and I tiptoed away feeling that perhaps after all they are right who say that the flowers bloom for themselves and not for us mortals.

Another time our dahlias had grown out of all bounds—some of the plants were eleven feet high—and we had to climb on a step-ladder to pick them. In spite of that the blooms were so fine in size and texture that

they took prizes at the flower show. Surely, I thought, this sight will move my friend, and I telephoned again. She responded immediately to my request to come over to my garden and I piloted her to the bed of dahlias. Again that critical, appraising gaze, and then this unlooked-for comment:

"I have often wondered why you edge your walks with sweet alyssum, it looks shabby so much of the time; now if you would just use privet or Japanese box . . . " I quickly broke in with an inquiry about her family, and speaking of sundry things, we again directed our steps to the garden gate.

One morning I was sitting on my bench trying to think of nothing, simply basking in the sunshine, color, and fragrance, vaguely watching the birds in their bath and among the crumbs on the bird-table. I have found from experience that if you really think or observe you never sit still but immediately go for cultivating fork or pruning shears. I was startled by a click at the garden gate and turned to see my friend of the Iris and dahlias approaching me. She is tall and very fair to look at, and in my mind I always call her Conscience. She had a most interested expression and could hardly wait to sit down beside me before she said:

"Is it really true that you have had a garden article published?"

I rather shame-facedly acknowledged it was a fact.

"Well, really, that is very surprising," said Conscience, and continued, "but now, doesn't your own garden bother you terribly? Why just suppose after reading your article some one should come here for ideas, what would you do?"

I said that I had considered that possibility, but I did not admit that I had awakened up several nights quite hot all over wondering just how I should cope with such a situation.

"Now," my friend continued, "I believe if we really went to work we could get your garden into some sort of shape so that it wouldn't seem so inconsistent with your advice to others; for one thing why do you have

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this strip of lawn, here at the back of the house, bordered by that row of Watsonias of three colors?" (For any who do not know Watsonias, they are in appearance a sort of etherialized gladiolus, the flower-stalks growing taller, and the flowers not so close together. When introduced not many years ago from South Africa the white ones were advertised as the whitest flowers ever offered to garden lovers.) "Right now, while they are in bloom," went on Conscience, "let us pull out all those orange-colored and pinkish-lavender ones, leaving only the white."

She started up as though to put her suggestion into immediate effect.

"But," I said, "that is impossible; we have those orange colored Watsonias on purpose, they attract the orioles; every day the orioles come, both kinds, the Bullock and the Arizona, and they sip honey from every orange-colored flower. We have watched them each May for three years and never once have we seen them go to a lavender or a white blossom, except to sway on it in order more easily to reach the orange-colored tubes."

"Then," said Conscience, "I suppose some reason like that accounts for that scraggly orange abutilon beside the bird-table."

"Yes," I answered, "that is for the humming birds as well as for the orioles."

"And that tall stalk which looks like millet beside the abutilon, appearing so out of place?"

I had to confess that was permitted to grow and go to seed for the linnets and little gold finches.

"But," Conscience remonstrated, "do you have your garden for birds or for people?" and I had to reply that I guessed for both. She was silent for a little while and then she said:

"You know I am really talking to you for your own good; I'd be so sorry to have any one critical of you. In your article you said just one variety of climbing rose was preferable for a garden background, and as I look along your fence, I can count at least eight varieties; now if you had, for example, only the Silver Moon, just think how effective would be the masses of white blossoms down the whole length of the garden."

I answered that if I did not plant many kinds how should I know how to advise others what not to have?

"At least," Conscience meekly asked, "you will let me break off that scarlet geranium which has pushed its way through the fence from your neighbor's garden?"

"Oh, no," I said, "please don't. I used to trim off every end of that geranium, but I have come to regard it as a friendly little face that likes to peer up and down my flowerbed to see what is going on."

At that Conscience gave up all hope of me. "As far as I can see," she exclaimed, "your garden is one of sentiment, of birds, and of all lack of self-restraint. Oh, you Americans!" (For Conscience, I would have you know, is English.) "When will you ever learn to make a really well-ordered garden?"

SOCIETY ITEM

J. G. Morley has gone to Europe to see what he can see, but equally interesting is the fact that Mrs. Morley and his daughter would not accompany him. The daughter, because she did not know any one over there, and her mother because her daughter would not go. And then they say our American women don't appreciate their own country.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY AND ITS FLOWER SHOWS

Elsewhere there is much in these pages about the San Diego Flower Show in Balboa Park, which bravely going up against a dry year, the absence of a wildflower section, and a date weeks too late, yet achieved a marked success, in fact many called it the best show ever held and one of the chief officers and certainly the most strenuous worker, remarked that there was less friction in the machinery than ever before.

However, this writer is concerned with the very vigorous progeny, a regular old fashioned family, that has sprung from the mother society and is now functioning to the North at Ramona and Oceanside, to the South at Chula Vista and National City, to the West at Coronado and the East at Lakeside. There is no intention of patronizing in this adoption of motherhood, yet quite likely some of the places named may feel that the Floral Association of San Diego is assuming too much, but when the judges at all these places are usually drawn from the Association ranks and San Diego this year gave up what is considered the proper date so as not to conflict with the event of one of the brood, showing that its spirit is one entirely of helpfulness, there should be no question of this kind, particularly as the San Diego in San Diego Floral Association has always meant to the members the County rather than the City.

Chula Vista was the first show and struck the date to the minute, they called it a Community show under the auspices of the Woman's Club and into the club house they crowded an exhibit that would have comfortably filled a big hall. Roses were extra, the best color ever Lady Hillingdon extra large and fair stems, General McArthur, splendid and the Cochetts in number. A feature of the outlying shows is their loyalty to old favorites, the Cochetts. Caroline Testout and such and there they show more sense than the City. Of course Los Angeles was present, but it did not like the warm weather, keeping very poorly. Some of the rose classes had over a dozen entries and all had real class. Chula Vista always shows wonderful things in old garden flowers. Sweet peas were grand, especially a basket of whites, good carnations in quite a variety, lovely salmon Watsonias, Coreopsis, with two foot stems, Cinerarias, the Stellata wonderful, Centaureas Snapdragons, in fact everything, and the judges had no easy time. Next year the show is to move into larger and more commodious quarters in the school house.

Coronado, and by the way, Coronadans came to the San Diego show and said they preferred their own, well their's was different, it was a May-day fete, with dances, bands and

whatnot, and it happened right out in their Park under the pine trees, ably assisted by hangers from North Island. From this one's standpoint, the feature of the Coronado show was the baskets and bowls and there were a lot of them, however, there was an amazing display from a small garden completely gardened by a couple of flower lovers in their spare moments. It should be of interest to read a list of what appeared on this table many of the items being shown in several colors. Annual Larkspur, Cineraria, Gaillardia, Snapdragon, Calendula, Centaurea, Carnation, Sweetpea, Gypsophila, English Daisy, Valerian, Stock, Toad Flax, Impatiens Sultana, Rose, Phacelia, Nemophila, Wallflower, Mignonette, California Poppy, Salpiglossis, Pelargonium, Pansy, Sweet Sultans, Hibiscus, Sweet William, Candytuft, Phlox Drummondii, Transvaal Daisy, Watsonia, Broom, Calla. Possibly there were more, but surely that is enough. The committee on prizes dug up so many that they were an exhibit in themselves. There is one class that never ought to be in the premium list and that is the one best rose in the show. Like the old farmer said of the giraffe: "There ain't no such animal;" and the trying to find it is cruelty to the judges. And by the way, baskets and bowls are outside a flower judge's province, if such happen to be a florist he favors a florist's latest fad, and if he is not, provided the judge is a he, he leans towards his wife's latest creations. These classes belong to artists and decorators and should be judged by a committee from the Three Arts, or the six or the seven or the one.

Coronado may well feel she has to take no back talk from San Diego or any other place, there is only one of her kind and it is a good kind.

The writer only attended one other show and that was Ramona. though reports from Lakeside and National City were as rare as Ellen Beach's High C. Ramona is a long way from home, that is just now over the Santa Maria grade, which has not been graded for a thousand years, and through the dust wallow called a cut-off going into the town itself, extending three miles or so. The auto making the trip is long and has been running on pavement solely for ages, but it did nobly till the worst was over, or so it thought as the summit was passed, but when it struck the cut-off it began to whine, entirely on its own through the horn, and just into Ramona its nerve broke and it had hysterics and started to shriek. and if it had not been mid-day, when all Ramona goes to sleep and sleeps in spite of everything, a panic might have happened, for it kept on screaming till

the juice was disconnected. Later a mechanic diagnosed what he called a short, but there is no reasonable doubt that it was clear hysterics with every excuse. It is a long time getting to that show, it also was the effort of the Woman's Club and in their club house, surrounded by good, soft dirt, where the auto came to rest and sighed till it blew out a back tire. Like in the other shows Cochet roses again were present, but so were lots of the newer ones and sweetpeas, but it was hot and the flowers felt it. Ramona should hold her show a month earlier. The writer went up to talk about rose culture, he had to go because he had accepted the date a year earlier, being sure that something would providentially intervene in that long time, but it did not. Growing roses in Ramona is a different matter to doing it in San Diego or anywhere near the coast, and the only thing the writer could think of except generalities was how can it be done in a dry heat. It was amazing to feel the heat and yet see the flowers. However, the colder winter should be an advantage if blooms could be had early in April and what a wildflower display Ramona should be able to stage in an ordinary year, and they can grow regular lilacs up there, and on a few miles at Santa Ysabel Mrs. Williams blooms peonies and things of that kind probably could grow rhododendrons and such and so why worry about a little thing like roses, which they grow well in places like Portland, where they celebrate the days it does not rain or mist or snow or something like that.

A JEWEL FROM PERSIA

The papers say that the wonderful crown jewels of Persia are to be sold to build railroads and other things that make our today civilization, among them a globe of gold twenty inches in diameter, with three thousand gems stuck in it like plums in a Christmas pudding. Just who will bid on this supremely useless article is a rather interesting question. Will it be bought by oil or automobile or will some plumber or plasterer get it to put on his onyx mantel?

All this is beside the matter that started this little notice which was the adventure, so to speak, of a quotation that spoke from the desk of the Floral Association at the late show, it had to do with bread and flowers and a lady visitor seeing it asked, "Why don't you give the whole quotation and give it correctly?" So at her dictation this was put upon another piece of cardboard and hung where all could read.

"If thou of fortune be bereft,
And in thy store there be but left
Two loaves; sell one
And with the dole
Buy hyacinths
To feed thy soul."

Along came a well-known artist and he asked, "Does not that come from the Bible?"

The party questioned said, "No, but it ought to, it appears in Omar Kayyam." Returning home O. K. was carefully scanned for this jewel, but it was not his. Later the Secretary of the Floral Association went to the Public Library and with the aid of Miss Warren placed the honor where the honor was due, the quotation is from a Garden of Roses by Saadi, a Persian poet, who sung sweetly from 1184 to 1221, or perhaps the first of those years his singing was sweet to his mother mostly.

This is a jewel that will stay in Persia's crown and yet shed a brilliant light on all the world.

SEED AS PREMIUM WITH THE CALIFORNIA GARDEN

Miss Moulds Special Dahlia Seed

Miss Mould has again saved seed from her best blooms and offers it as a premium with California Garden. Not only does she thus handsomely exhibit her deep interest in the San Diego Floral Association but in addition offers two handsome sterling silver basket vases to be put up for the best bloom grown from her seed and the best collection grown from her seed, the competition to be staged at the special Dahlia show which will be held at the most favorable date in the Floral Home, Balboa Park. This competition is open to blooms grown from Miss Moulds seed in previous years as well as this one

MISS MOULD'S CUPS FOR SEEDLING DAHLIAS

Miss Mould is nothing if not a good sportsman and she wishes to announce that her two silver cups can be competed for with any seedling Dahlia and not necessarily one grown from her seed. Her object is to stimulate raising dahlias from seed as her own experience has convinced her that San Diego is particularly fitted for this phase of dahlia-itis and she has unbounded confidence in her own seed. Why don't you get some or some of her seedling plants and call this bluff.

OUR LIBRARY GETS GIFTS

Charles F. Saunders, the well-known writer about nature subjects, has donated to our Floral Home Library two of his books, "With the Trees and Flowers of California," and "Useful Wild Plants of the United States and Canada."

Another well-wisher has given fifty dollars to purchase books and a committee is now hunting the cheapest place to get the latest edition of Bailey's Encyclopedia of Horticulture.

Don't you want to do something?

California Garden is written right out of the garden by folks who work in it.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The May & June Gardens

THE FLOWER GARDEN

By Mary Matthews.

Already our gardens show signs of summer. Many of the flowers of winter and spring have become leggy and should be taken out. Calendulas, for instance, so gay the past month, show poor flowers and a great desire to make seed—the foliage of most of the spring blooming bulbs has turned yellow and before long, if they are to be divided and reset, will be the time to do it. Many bulb specialists recommend resetting again just as soon as divided and cleaned of all old growth, and not kept in storage. Of course where you buy newly from the dealers you cannot do this till fall, as they are not available till then. Already I have had catalogues from bulb growers, especially those who list the smaller kinds—Sparaxis, Ixias, Ranunculus, Anemones, etc., advising to buy and have them in the ground by August. Of course if this is done, moisture in moderate quantity must be supplied regularly. Just after flowering is one of the best times to replant your bearded Iris, but if you have a clump that gave good blooms this year, do not be in a hurry to separate. Iris give more blooms and longer stems if allowed to grow for some seasons in the same place. They must be well established if they are to give any amount of good blooms. The display of Iris at the recent flower show was probably the best ever shown here. A greater variety, finer flowers with long stems, and good keeping qualities. The bulbous sorts though were conspicuous by their lack, except in the case of the brilliant blue (a Dutch hybrid, I think) which in some yards in town bids fair to become a need, now that the stock of bulbous Iris is available through home growers we ought to have lots of them.

With the wane of spring flowers do not think your gardens need be bare till next season. Some of the most important are yet to give their blooms. Summer sweetpeas, if well cared for, will be a glory for some time to come. This is the most favorable time to plant seedlings of all the asters, the American Beauty type and the California giants (non-laterals) give gorgeous blooms if properly treated. One of the finest beds of asters I saw last season was obtained by planting the seeds in well cultivated soil just where they were to grow permanently. The seeds came up thickly, plants were thinned out to about

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

May is a busy month in the garden, both vegetable and flower, and many varieties of vegetable seeds and plants can be set out to keep up a good supply for the table during the balance of the year. As a preparatory measure, see that you keep the required amount of moisture way below the surface, to promote healthy and steady growth of plants, both young and old, always bearing in mind that any check given to growing vegetables by lack of moisture or cultivation or both, spoils the perfect maturing of the plants and so detracts from the excellence of the vegetable, whatever it may be.

Continue to plant cucumbers and musk melons and water melons. The Lemon Cucumber does not take up much room and is something out of the common, being lemon shaped and of rather distinct flavor. The best quick growing cantaloupe is the Pollock, 10-25, being the last thing in Rocky Fords, excellent flavor and just the right size for breakfast. For larger size try the Tip Top. The Klondyke water melon is the most popular, being large, of distinct flavor, very sweet and will continue to bear into September and October, long after other varieties have disappeared.

Set out all vegetable plants that are available if you are not already fully stocked, and sow a succession of radish, turnip, beets, parsnip, beans, carrots, etc. Do not neglect the various insect pests, and fungus diseases, a little spraying and dusting in the beginning will save a lot of trouble and loss later, so make the extra effort and save the day.

There is so much building and consequent lawn making going on now that a few directions on lawn making may not come amiss. For a new lawn soak the ground thoroughly for twenty-four to forty-eight hours before you attempt to spade it up. When spading be sure and break up all lumps so that there will be no air spaces and to insure the ground settling evenly. Rake it over thoroughly and, if possible, roll it with a good garden roller. Be careful to have levels conform to lot and sidewalk so as to insure proper drainage. Sow your seed at the rate of one pound to one hundred and fifty square feet, the favorite mixture being one pound white clover to three or four pounds of Kentucky Blue Grass.

After sowing seed rake it lightly and cover

Continued on page 15

Con'd on page 15

The California Garden

A. D. Robinson, Editor

Office, Rosecroft, Point Loma, Cal.
Mrs. Sidney E. Mayer, Associate Editor
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EDITORIAL

To her many other benefactions Miss Ellen Scripps has added a lathhouse, the door of which stands open for the public, and what a lathhouse, quite different from any former structure in that class, and why not? when one plans a lathhouse there is a blessed absence of precedent. To the planning of a dwelling or a garden come the ghosts of their countless predecessors throughout the world and without any intention to ignore the many beautiful creations that have resulted from the conference we must deplore the host of mongrels that have been released. To the planners of the structure of the Scripps lathhouse at La Jolla was presented a really new problem, they could visit lathhouses, yes, but were they real successes, they could consult a few lathhouse proprietors, but were they authorities. They did both these things and then settled down on the spot for building and did what they thought best and the result is something unique, something attractive, structurally, and only time can tell what the plants think of it. The position is also unique on a sharp point of land with a steep slope towards the sea and lots of wind right off the salt ocean and all the sun a sunny land provides. The entrance is at the point from the south and a forty-foot rotunda surrounds one from which run a short arm to the north and a long one to the west in three drops. An extremely pleasing feature of construction is the two or more feet of hardpan foundation from which the walls rise. This has been admirably treated and all the lovely tones of greys, reds and browns are there and it is not too even, it seems a pity to hide one stone

of it even with the most gorgeous flower, just why this same foundation does not pertain in the rotunda we do not know, but are sure we should like it there. We shall not attempt any detailed description, firstly, because it is beyond us and if we could we would not, as you can go and see it for yourself.

The Floral Association were invited to formally open this new thing in lathhouses and a great many people accepted the chance to look where they have actively surmised for a year. Immediate colorful effect had been obtained with seasonal flowers such as cinerarias, tulips, narcissus and such, and the effect though gorgeous, was flat and too even, and rather over accentuated the heavy redwood beams, but that was to be expected and is only mentioned here to head off the army of conscientious objectors to everything new. If the design has any fault from the lathhouse planter's standpoint it is that no planting can give a feeling of seclusion or mystery, it is a wide open design, but there again there is no lathhouse technic and a wide open one may be a right one. Time undoubtedly will show where slight changes here and there will be beneficial, but there can be no two opinions of the worth of the Scripps Lathhouse at La Jolla, designed by Gardiner and Slaymaker, it has furnished at least the beginning of a technic, it is a public benefaction and was boldly conceived.

That annual election of Directors for the Floral Association is mighty close and it is a safe bet that not one in ten of the members has given a thought to how best to fill these seven chairs for the coming year. We would be glad, indeed, if we could arouse the four hundred odd members of this old, useful, evergrowing organization to the necessity of thinking on this subject and then acting. There is a wealth of material in the large membership, men and women in and out of business, with and without a knowledge of garden matters, and it should be remembered that the Directors don't have to plant gardens or even know the names of flowers, they are executives who tell the rest what to do, and see that they do it. Sentiment should have no place in this election, because one has served is no reason why he should do so again, in fact it often supplies the opposite excuse. A change, even from well doing, is sometimes good, because advance is not always in the same direction, and a good executive may have exhausted his particular alley. One thing may well be said as to qualification, candidates should be volunteers and not pressed men. Like all purely volunteer genuinely pro bono publico things, the will to serve must be behind all officers, for if they don't want to they don't have to.

Another view, and that's all, does not every member owe to the old board who have worked hard and faithfully through a strenuous

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

ous year, the courtesy of attending the annual meeting and joining in a vote of thanks to them for their efforts, and by the way, it is to laugh, for this vote has not come up at the majority of these annual rendering account of stewardship.

We are being seriously asked: "How big are we to allow this California Garden to grow?" The answer depends on "How well it is doing its job?" Is it helping to make two

other splendid grove of California Redwoods, or *Sequoia sempervirens*, has been preserved. The tract is in the heart of the Humboldt State Redwood Park about 45 miles south of Eureka, Calif. It comprises 113 acres and contains some of the largest Redwood trees of this region, many of these giants being from 10 to 15 feet in diameter and from 200 to 300 feet in height. There are several ideal camping spots in this grove, which is located on the banks of the South Fork of the Eel



CALIFORNIA REDWOODS

blades of grass grow where only one grew before? What is its influence on better homes and better folks? Answer these questions and the future of California Garden is answered.

GROVE OF REDWOODS SAVED

Announcement has just been made by Dr. John C. Merriam, President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, and head of the Save the Redwoods League, that through the generosity of a resident of Massachusetts an-

River. The citizen who furnished the funds that made possible the saving of this grove refused to have his identity made known, asking that he be designated simply as "a resident of Massachusetts." After purchasing this tract the Save the Redwoods League immediately deeded it to the State of California to be held for all time as a public park.

The Garden publishes two cuts of the Redwoods to emphasize this notice.

A garden paper for garden folks. California Garden, \$1.00 per year.

AN AFTERNOON IN THE GARDEN OF MRS. EVANS

Since the last issue of the California Garden it has been the pleasure and the privilege of the association and its friends to spend an afternoon in the beautiful garden of Mrs. Herbert Evans in Mission Hills. This is a hillside garden and very beautiful in its planting. The chief features at the time of the visit were the Wistarias over the pergolas—and the Iris—two things in which Mrs. Evans has specialised. Wistarias have made a wonderful growth and are to be seen in shades of blue, pink and white, making a beautiful overhead covering for the smaller subjects planted underneath. No one, even though they were not an enthusiast, could have failed to admire the Iris throughout the gardens. Those on the hillside planted en masse deserved special commendation.

Mrs. Evans at present is abroad, but being a loyal member of the association had arranged before going for this meeting. Miss Sessions, as enthusiastic as ever, was on hand to take groups around the garden explaining everything and also taking those who desired to go to nearby gardens. That the opportunity to see these beautiful plantings was fully appreciated, was shown by the large number who came, there being in the neighborhood of two hundred present.

MARY A. MATTHEWS,
Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting will be held the third Tuesday in June in the Floral Home in Balboa Park. The reports of officers will be given as briefly and entertainingly as possible and a big attendance is earnestly desired to elect Directors for the coming year, which promises to be one of the most important in the history of the Association. Music and the latest in colored pictures by Harold Taylor and special floral decorations. If you have a choice for Director send in the name to the Secretary.

"A fresh footpath, a fresh flower, a fresh delight."

OUT-OF-DOOR MEETING FOR JUNE CHANGED

Owing to the confliction with other events which many members are already pledged to attend, the out-of-door meeting of the Floral Association for the first Tuesday in June will be held in the morning at Mission Cliff Gardens instead of at Torrey Pines.

"You may own this plot of ground, and I that, but the horizon belongs to him who can interpret it."—Emerson.

AS REGARDS THE FLOWER SHOW

Minutes and statistics I know are generally considered very dry reading, but I cannot refrain from giving a few, they show such a wonderful increase over previous shows.

There were 357 entries made for competition, about 175 awards and besides numerous renewals there were under the able chairmanship of Mr. Ernest White, 42 new names added to the subscription list of California Garden, which now proudly boasts of a subscription of over 1100. The question has been asked several times of late, When shall we stop increasing this list—as it bids fair to go steadily on—as secretary it was my privilege to be with the judges and commendation was heard of most all classes, there being but little adverse criticism.

Secretary.

LIME NOT GOOD FOR LAWNS

The use of lime on lawns is not as a rule conducive to the best results, says the United States Department of Agriculture. There is a popular notion that Kentucky blue grass must have lot of lime to do well, but many demonstrations have disproved it. What this excellent lawn grass needs is a rich soil.

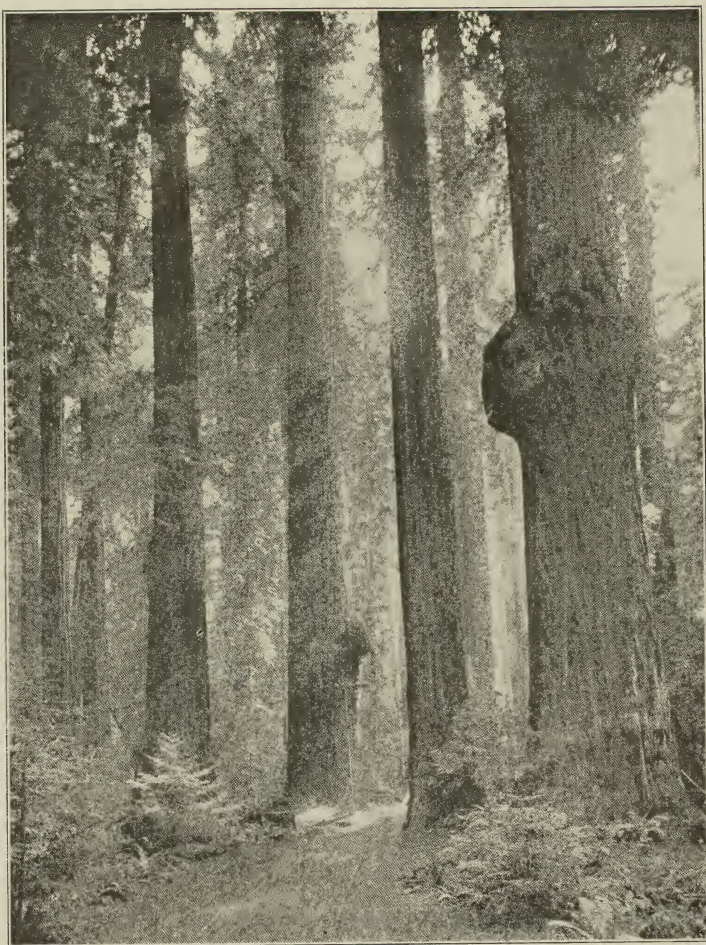
Much lime on soils is not desirable, for the reason that it has a tendency to encourage the growth of the weeds which are easily able to compete with the lawn grasses when lime or alkaline reacting fertilizers are used. Acid reacting fertilizers lessen weed trouble. Many persons believe that the presence of moss in a lawn is an indication of an acid soil, but the department says it is an indication of poor soil. The experimental turf plots on the department farm at Arlington, Va., indicate that better turf may be produced there without lime than with it, and that moss will give no trouble if proper fertilizers are used.

A man without a country may be pitiable, but how much more so is a man without the consciousness of flowers within his heart.

COLLECTION VS. DISPLAY

This is not a tennis or golf match but a question that apparently has bothered several exhibitors at the shows. Briefly Collection stresses variety, display arrangement. Collection is used in relation to a class to bring out as many varieties as possible and display to exercise the decorative ability of the exhibitor. In a collection class an exhibit of six kinds even if of only one stalk of each should win over fifty stalks of three or four kinds, whereas the award would go the other way if display had been colled for.

Soil not cultivated hardens and so do hearts.



They came to us from the long past, shall we
not hand them to the future?

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

A complete list of Awards made at the Fall Flower Show under the auspices of the San Diego Floral Association, Civic Auditorium.

On account of the unusually large number of entries in the various classes, and the careful attention given by the judges to each and every exhibit, the list of awards was incomplete when given to the reporters. Also other awards were given, and there were some corrections to be made.

The following list of awards is just as they were given by the judges after due consideration of each entry:

PREMIUM LIST

Amateurs

Class 1. Best collection of Roses, not less than 12 varieties and not more than 3 blooms of a kind: Association Cup. F. L. Hieatt, winner, in 1920, 1921, 1924.

Class 2. Best collection of roses, 6 varieties, not more than 3 of each: First, Mrs. F. G. H. Havard.

Class 3. Best three white roses, one variety: First, Mrs. Erskine Campbell, Point Loma; second, Mrs. Charles Darling, Chula Vista.

Class 4. Best three red roses, one variety: First, F. L. Hieatt; second, Judge Smith, Chula Vista; award of merit, Mrs. J. O. Kaidel.

Class 5. Best three yellow roses, one variety: First, Mrs. Josephine Vacher, El Cajon; second, F. L. Hieatt; award of merit, Mrs. W. Mayer.

Class 6. Best three yellow shaded roses, one variety: First, Mrs. F. G. H. Havard; second, Mrs. D. F. Harness, Point Loma; award of merit, Mrs. F. B. H. Havard. Special, Miss H. Coulter.

Class 7. Best three pink roses, one variety: First, Mrs. Erskine Campbell, Point Loma; second, Mrs. J. H. Zitt; award of merit, Judge Smith, Chula Vista.

Class 8. Best three pink shaded roses, one variety: First, Miss H. Coulter; second, May Dodge, Chula Vista; special, Mrs. Erskine Campbell; award of merit, Mrs. D. F. Harness.

Trophy for best three roses in various colors, classes 3 to 8: Best pink shaded roses, Miss Hortense Coulter.

Class 9. Best three flame colored roses—example, Mde. Herlot; award of merit, Jennie Owens.

Class 10. Best one white rose: First, Mrs. Charles Darling; second, Mrs. Gonzales; award of merit, Mrs. Edward Strahlmann.

Class 11. Best one pink rose: First, Mrs. Florentin; second, Miss Clara Grossmayer; award of merit, Mrs. F. G. H. Havard.

Class 12. Best one yellow rose: First, Mrs. W. Mayer; second, Mrs. M. G. Strauss; award of merit, Mrs. F. G. H. Havard.

Class 13. Best one red rose: First, Mrs. F. G. H. Havard; second, Mrs. F. Wyss; award of merit, Clara Grossmayer.

Class 14. Best one crimson rose: First, Mrs. H. G. Strauss; second, Mrs. F. G. H. Havard; award of merit, Mrs. M. G. Strauss.

Class 15. Best single rose, example, Isobel or Irish Elegance: First, Mrs. Randolph Morse.

Class 17. Best display of climbing roses: First, Mrs. H. Thorsen; second, L. A. Blochman; award of merit, Miss Coulter.

Class 18. Best new rose, not before shown in San Diego: First, Mrs. Henry Lippit.

Class 19. Best arranged vase, bowl or dish of roses: First, F. L. Hieatt; second, Mrs. Emma Tombaugh.

Class 20. Best arranged basket of roses and greenery, allowed as decoration: First, Miss Emily Mould; second, Mrs. Fred Scripps; award of merit, Mrs. Vacher.

Class 21.

Class 22.

Class 23. Best six roses, other than McArthur or Los Angeles: First, F. L. Hieatt; second, F. L. Hieatt; award of merit and special, Mrs. Zitt.

Class 24. Best arranged basket of flowers, other than roses: First, Mrs. Fred Scripps; second, Miss Emily Mould; special, James Flint, Chula Vista; award of merit, Irene Philbrook; special, Miss Charlotte Robinson.

Class 25. Best arrangement of flowers in bowl or dish: First, Mrs. John Bakker; second, Miss Coulter.

Class 28. Best individual specimen of decorative plant: First, Mrs. J. G. M. Jessie.

Class 29. Best cut specimen flowering vine: First, Mrs. Thelen, National City; second, Miss Hortense Coulter; award of merit, Mrs. F. H. Turner.

Class 30. Best display of bulb flowers: First, Miss Churchward; second, Mrs. W. D. Tinker; special, Miss Ella Worden.

Class 31. Best display of Gladiolas: First, Mrs. H. L. Kahn; second, Naval Air Station; award of merit, E. F. Walters, Chula Vista.

Class 32. Best display of Iris: First, Miss Mildred McLemore, Escondido; second, Mrs. Herbert Evans; award of merit, Mary Matthews.

Class 3. Best display of Pansies: First, Miss H. Coulter; second, Mrs. L. Florentin; award of merit, Mrs. H. Southall; special, no number given.

Class 34. Best display of Wild Flowers by individuals: First, Miss Tunnell, Pacific Beach; second, Mrs. Schneider.

Class 36. Best general collection of flowers from a private garden employing gard-

ener: First, Naval Air Station, San Diego; second, Capt. Sellers, Naval Training Station.

Class 37. Best general collection from a private garden, not employing a gardener: First, Mrs. W. J. Clack, Coronado; second, Mrs. Nellie Haley, National City; award of merit, Mrs. Walter Yates; special, Miss E. Tower.

Class 38. Best collection Sweetpeas, not less than 15 stems: First, Mrs. Vacher, Chula Vista; second, E. F. Walter, Chula Vista; award of merit, Miss Queen Cross; special, Miss Emily Mould.

Class 40. Best vase light pink Sweetpeas: First, Mrs. Vacher, El Cajon; second, Mrs. Bakker.

Class 41. Best vase of dark pink Sweetpeas: First, Mrs. Vacher, El Cajon.

Class 42. Best vase red Sweetpeas: First, Mrs. M. C. Pfefferkorn; second, Miss Coulter; award of merit, Mrs. Vacher, El Cajon.

Class 43. Best lavender Sweetpeas: First, Miss Hortense Coulter; second E. F. Walter; award of merit, Miss Mary Collier.

Class 44. Best vase purple Sweetpeas: First, Mrs. Owen; second, Mrs. Roult; award of merit, Mrs. Hayward.

Class 45. Best vase salmon Sweetpeas: First, Mrs. Summerlin.

Class 46. Best vase Maroon Sweetpeas: First, Miss Carrie Bratcher; second, Mrs. Vacher, El Cajon; award of merit, Miss Mary Collier.

Class 47. Best vase bi-color Sweetpeas: First, Miss H. Coulter; second Mrs. Hayward; award of merit, Mrs. Vacher.

Class 48. Best arranged basket Sweetpeas: First, Mrs. A. Merritt; second, Mrs. M. C. Pfefferkorn; award of merit, Miss E. Mould.

Class 49. Best arranged bowl of Sweetpeas: Mrs. Bakker; Sweetpea sweep stake, Mrs. Vacher.

Class 50. Best display Cinerarias, dwarf hybrids: First, E. F. Walters, Chula Vista; second, Mrs. Stahl, La Jolla.

Class 51. Best display of Cineraria Stelata: First, Mrs. Clack, Coronado.

Class 54. Best display of Pelargonium (Lady Washington): First, Naval Air Station, San Diego; second, Miss Violet Lewis.

Class 55. Best display of geraniums: First, Mrs. Grant, Coronado; second, Mrs. Nellie Haley; award of merit, L. A. Blochman.

Class 56. Best display of annuals: First, Miss H. Coulter; second, Mrs. Collins; award of merit, Mrs. F. H. Turner.

Class 57. Best display of perennials: First, Miss Hortense Coulter; second, Mrs. W. V. Thomas; award of merit, Naval Air Station, San Diego; special, Naval Air Station, San Diego.

Class 58. Best display of stock: First, Mrs. M. C. Pfefferkorn; second, Mrs. M. McWilliam.

Class 59. Best display of snapdragons: First,

Mrs. Clack, Coronado; second, Mrs. M. A. Greer; award of merit, Mrs. Harry Kahn.

Class 60. Best display of Calendulas: First, Mrs. Jennie Owens; second, Mrs. F. J. H. Havard; award of merit, Mrs. Clack, Coronado.

Class 61. Best display of Larkspur: First, Mrs. Clack, Coronado; second, Mrs. Henry Lippitt; award of merit, Mrs. Townsend; special, Miss Gertrude Halley, Lemon Grove.

Class 62. Best display any other flowers not otherwise classified: First, Mrs. M. C. Pfefferkorn; second, Miss Gertrude Halley.

Class 63. Best table decoration using roses: First, Mrs. L. A. Ellis.

Class 64. Best table decorations other than roses: First, Miss Mary Benton; award of merit, Mrs. L. A. Ellis.

Class 69. Best display of cut flowers or plants from a child's garden: First, Mary Childs; second, Garfield School.

Class 70-A. Best display Carnations: First, Naval Air Station, San Diego; second, Mrs. Otto Stang, National City; special, Mrs. C. A. Sumner, Chula Vista; award of merit, special collection sweetpeas from Garfield School.

Professionals.

Class 73. Best general display of cut flowers, other than roses: First, Rose Court Floral Co.

Class 74. Best general display of shrubs and plants: First, F. A. Bode.

Class 75. Best display of everlasting flowers: First, Thompson's Everlastings, Bird Rock; second, Rose Court Floral Co.

Class 76. Best display of bulb flowers: First, Miss K. O. Sessions; specials, Ralph Cushman, Point Loma; award of merit, Luther Gage, Carlsbad.

Class 77. Best arranged basket flowers by florist: First, Boyle and Darnaud.

Specials additional given: Blue ribbon to John Morley for display of roses and award of merit for "Los Angeles Roses" exhibit; blue ribbon to Balboa Park for wonderful grouping of shrubs in auditorium.

Specials to Alfred D. Robinson for rose display, also for showing of geraniums.

Award of merit to Naval Training Station for very artistic arrangement of cut flowers in display.

Award of merit to Natural History Museum for especially educational exhibit of native flora.

GETTING READY FOR THE DAHLIA SHOW

A. B. Partridge of 3085 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego, has been appointed the head of a committee to revise the Dahlia schedule for the Fall Show and generally act for the best interests of that flower and its growers. If you have any suggestions get in touch with him.

STRAY THOUGHTS

Of P. D. Barnhart.

Spouting Frogs. The workings of the mind of some people, when they attempt to beautify a landscape with trees, plants and pools, is more than I can understand. Recently I saw a pool of water surrounded with a cement curb, and on top of the curb were three cast iron frogs, each with a tube in its mouth, spouting water into the pool.

Now frogs sit on the edge of lakes, rivers, and streams of water, but never spout water. They are there to catch insects for a living.

If the same amount of water which went through those metal frogs, had been made to flow from beneath a small pile of sandstone rocks, it would have given the scene a natural appearance, and that is what all Artists attempt, when they make a Garden, whether it be under Glass, Lath or in the Open.

(Why not accord the same privilege to an iron frog that custom has to a bronze dolphin or a stone lion.—Ed.)

Exotics. There seems to be an inherent disposition in most folks to go far afield for subjects to ornament their home grounds: even to the uttermost parts of the earth. No fault should be found with such practice; indeed it is to be commended. There is this to say about such Landscape Gardening: when an Exotic is unhappy in its new home, it should be removed to more congenial quarters. There is one Private Place in this Southland, which is close by the sea, and wind swept with salt air. There are all sorts of trees and plants growing thereon, and but one of them happy. I should say several, because there are a number of fine specimens of *Araucaria Cookii*. Indeed, they are the finest trees of the kind that have ever come under my observation. Were those grounds mine, every palm, and all other Exotics would be removed and their places filled with the *Araucaria*. Then it would be prominently, and pronouncedly distinctive, superior in appearance to any other on this coast.

Helxine Soleirolii. This is the plant; the ground cover which is becoming very common—and deservedly so—on this coast, for covering bare spots, in the garden where it is difficult to make other plants grow. Until recently it has been known as *Nertera depressa*. The first named belong to the Nettle family, a native of Corsica, and with me, it is much more compact, therefore more beautiful, when grown in full sun, than when grown in shade. Right here I wish to say that *Thymus Serpyllum* is quite as dwarf, and compact in habit as *Helxine*, and will stand more rough usage. To tread on the subject under discussion is sure death to it.

Plant Life. I am not one of the class who

believe that it is "sentient life" i. e., endowed with the faculties of sensation and perception, but I am very sure that it responds to loving care, and personal attention, and the man or woman who, having a garden, turns it over to a professional gardener, whose sole concern is to do enough work to hold his job, and draw his pay at the end of the week or month, need never hope to have thrifty, luxuriant, happy plants.

Beloved; go with me along the highways, and the byways of life and let us glance at the gardens of the children of men. We see the garden of the section men of our railroads, neat and well kept, and though it be but a collection of the *Geranium*, despised and neglected by many people because it is so common; luxuriant, of foliage and brilliant in bloom, and we pause in wonder and admiration. Now section men are not of that class of humanity who are able to lavish a large amount of money on their gardens, but they do give of their love, and thoughtful care to the plants they have. Now this is the lowest type of the Art of Gardening. Again let us go into the garden of the man or woman of wealth, and yet lack interest, and a sympathetic understanding of the subjects growing within. Nine times out of ten their places are a travesty on the name; garden, and they wonder WHY. The answer is: their lack of love for plant life.

There is a lathhouse whose beauty maketh glad the hearts of the children of men whose privilege it is to enter its portals.

Ferns of the majestic tree type, the delicate Maiden Hair with its lace like foliage, and pretty Polypods revel in the leaf mold and loam prepared for them, by the gardener. Begonias of every conceivable habit of growth, bearing flowers in great profusion, of all sizes; from that of a pea to that of the size of a saucer. The colors are so exquisitely beautiful, they are the despair of the artist who would attempt to show them on canvass.

The Rex type, with foliage of satiny texture, borne on silky stems, and in colors indescribable. The stately tree type of this family of plants tower aloft, forming archways of delicate green foliage, the branches dripping with flowers of fascinating colors, the scene so ethereal, that it brings to the heart of the beholder comfort, to the mind, a peace which passeth understanding, to the soul, a welcome relief from the cares of the strenuous life, which most of us live. Why all this beauty, this joy, this delight? Because of the tender care bestowed upon the cosmopolitan collection of the plant creation growing within its confines.

THE LATHHOUSE

By Alfred D. Robinson.

I am extremely occupied this month caring for the seedling begonias that grew from the dust put in my oatsprouter and this is the first year I have really kept up with them. Having thus far been successful I want to talk about it before the success wanes. Firstly, the technic of sowing as described heretofore proved good and the little plants came remarkably evenly distributed, a very vital thing where the seedlings are looking for an excuse to die almost before they begin to live and the chief of their excuses is damping off from overcrowding. I should like to leave the seedlings alone till they grew a fair size, but it cannot be done, directly they touch leaves they ask for room. In pricking out this year I have added some helps to the practice, difficult at the best. One was to turn the tool made from an old spoon wrong side too, which brings the curve better and to file off the ornament on the handle and making an acceptable lifter. When the seedlings are taken from the seed box they cannot be pried out one at a time, but must be lifted in small clumps and this calls for a flat, rather wide instrument, so that the clump does not disintegrate on the way. When the clump is out it should be gently rolled between the finger and thumb to separate the small plants as they cannot be just pulled apart without sacrificing important roots. To facilitate planting and spacing in the flats I now have a strip of redwood shake beveled on one side and marked off like a ruler. This I press into the soil the required depth keeping an upright edge next to me, and then lay it down flat to space along the slot. The object of keeping the side next to me upright is so that when the small plant is put in the slot I have only to press one way to firm it, and towards me is easiest. It is important to firm the soil in the flats thoroughly, especially in corners and along edges and it should be damp enough to hold together readily.

The first watering, even with the finest spray, will tend to beat down the little leaves and stick them, but they are easily released with a touch of some small thing, such as a pencil, the next day. Without fail every day the sun shines the pricked out seedlings are covered in the middle of the day with newspaper and also at night. In the day time because too strong a light seems to sap all the vitality of these wee things so that the leaves turn appreciably yellower and at night because it seems a protection against a cut worm that is most destructive, the theory being that these cut worms are the larvae of a moth which does not nest on newspapers. These excessive precautions are only for the first period of growth, for the tuberous begonias once they strike their stride grow like weeds. Probably this first period would be

BEGONIA BREVITIES

Our ad of last month seems to have given the impression that Rosecroft and its Begonias are on the bargain counter. One lady came in for two bits worth of Cannas and an odd geranium and another suggested that friend Bode would market all the nursery stock we could raise. We have take double space to correct this idea and state just what we have for sale.

Large specimen plants of tall Begonias, Rexes and Ferns and Baskets of Hanging tuberous and single specimens of same. Nothing cheaper than one dollar for tuberous. Nothing less than \$5 for Rexes, nothing less than \$10 for tall Begonias and a whole lot of stuff that is much more expensive.

Briefly, we are not going into the nursery business. We might fitly term ourselves LATHHOUSE VIRTUOSOS. We want to do business, but on a basis that will return something nearly adequate for the time and care expended.

We can furnish something unique; and at your service is all we have learned in over twenty years close study of lathhouse problems. Oh Yes! we charge for this advice too, but it will save you a great deal more than it costs.

ROSECREFT BEGONIA GARDENS

POINT LOMA, CALIF.

Alfred D. Robinson, Prop.

much easier if our nights were warmer, as sixty is the low mark on their thermometer. I am still waiting for some seed of the Narcissus flowered tuberous ordered, and also paid for, with an American florist, months ago, but it can be planted till August and yet make tubers to carry over.

The hanging tuberous are coming very fast and being made up into baskets, though those with very stiff, strong stems are potted and tied up, some of these last year made wonderful specimens. At risk of pulling a chestnut I wish to again emphasize the salient points in making up a wire hanging basket mainly because it is so seldom done half well. Make a good solid rim firmly sewed on with the most lasting material you can get, marlin does one season and the moss lasts only that long. Don't spare moss for the lining, poke it all over with an exploring finger and if you find a weak spot reinforce it. Firm the soil, which should be rather coarse in texture and enriched with a sprinkling of bone meal, when half filled pad the connection between the rim and the body very thoroughly with moss, one weak spot means a dry basket later, and when planting tamp the soil round the edge to the limit. When all is done put to soak till saturated through and through and never let dry out afterwards.

Oh, but the Rexes are making wonderful promise, and now they want watching for many leaves will get into cramped quarters, between stems, under leaves, against their box or basket, and very frequently against the wires of hanging baskets, and unless released will soon be deformed. Don't let an old seedy leaf dwarf a new-coming one. Keep the top of the soil always moist and on hot days throw a spray around two or three times, these are atmospheric growers. The best colors are developed in a fairly strong light, the greys will get an overcast of pink if the right exposure is found, but too much light will spoil everything. I have named three seedlings of 1922, a very large green self Mavourneen, a large pointed leaf olive green with faint shadowing zone evidently discolored in type, J. G. Morley, and a huge hairy round leaf with pink stems dark grey all over. cut up into irregular spaces with darker line, Cirrus. The seedling crop of 1925 have just been potted, there are ninety and nine that are safe in the pots, but several times that number have been lost by the wayside, yet this is by far my most successful harvest. The young Rexes tend to all come dark to start with, then they put out a spotted leaf, but their real character is not disclosed for two years. Unless one is an enthusiast growing Rexes from seed should not be undertaken.

I wish to correct my schedule for lathhouse work as put out in former numbers, that is so far as concerns the Rexes, another year I shall leave them absolutely alone except for

RAINFORD FLOWER SHOP



Cut Flowers

Floral Designs

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San Diego

Inexpensive

Hot Water Service

is supplied by the CIRCULATING
TYPE GAS WATER HEATER.

This little heater will supply all the hot water you want—for bathing, dishwashing, housework, etc.—within ten or fifteen minutes after the burners are lighted. The water runs, piping hot right to your faucets, thus relieving you of the necessity of carrying a teakettle about.

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necessary watering till May, before that season they make quite definite new growth, but every return of cool weather, especially at night, will check it and during those checks any meddling with them is dangerous. I shall put the Rexes last on the list for spring cleaning.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

Con'd from Pge. 5

with shavings to a depth of half an inch.

As most of our soil is not very rich in plant foods it is well to apply a good dressing of well rotted and pulverized cow manure when spading up ground, or after spading, and a few days before planting an application of good commercial fertilizer at the rate of one hundred pounds to twenty-five hundred square feet, evenly distributed and raked into the surface of the ground. Where the ground is heavy clay or adobe it will be necessary to add three or four inches of good bottom soil to make a seed bed after the clay has been well spaded up and smoothed down.

In watering a new lawn be careful not to allow any washing. At this time of year a thorough sprinkling twice a day will be necessary to keep surface sufficiently damp to promote healthy growth, it being understood

that the ground was thoroughly soaked to a good depth when spading was done.

After the grass is up high enough to be caught by a lawn mower, cut it two or three times before you begin to worry about weeding. Most of the weeds will disappear with the cutting and in the mean time the sod will form enough so that a judicious weeding will not damage your lawn. And while talking of weeds, remember that all the weeds that come up were not sown with the grass seed. Just give that same piece of ground the same treatment for thirty days as recommended above, and don't sow any grass seed at all, and see what you will get!

FLOWER GARDEN

Con'd from Pge. 5

six or eight inches apart, given abundant moisture and cultivation between the rows once a week and from the last of July till well into the fall were a glorious sight. One of my neighbors has treated her snap dragons just the same way this season and they are now a mass of bloom in every color, about four feet high, strong, sturdy plants with so far no indication of rust; the seeds were sown about February. Now is the time for planting Zinnas, for those who care for them. They can be had in all colors except blue and

GLAD TIDINGS

Practically all my dormant stock is disposed of for this season, for which I thank you.

Your Glads are probably now blooming or have bloomed, in which case withdraw the water and when the tops are about two-thirds brown loosen the bulbs with a spade and pull them up by the tops, then cut off the bulbs and store in a dry place where the air can circulate. Leave them in storage for about three months, after which time you can set them out again. Before setting out pull off the old last year's bulb.

If you wish to make a few plants yet, I can supply Mrs. Frank Pendleton, deep pink, \$.75 per dozen; Schwaben, pure yellow, \$1.00 per dozen, and Peace, white, \$.35 dozen. The Peace are very small bulbs, but will do nicely yet this season.

By the time you read this Dahlias should be well up, but if you are short in these types or varieties for the "Fall Flower Show", I will still have a few dormant roots left in Pompons at \$.35 each and Decoratives at \$.50 each.

Keep the soil your Dahlias are growing in moist, but not wet, and be sure and stake them when they first come up, if not done when planted, for if you put it off you are apt to pierce the tubers by later staking.

A well cared for flower garden should show a healthy owner with an eye for beauty and an orderly mind.

RALPH F. CUSHMAN - GROWER OF GLADIOLI
BOX 5-A Point Loma, California

this may have been achieved by this time. They come in all the pastel shades in all heights from the pigmy to the giant branching and will give a long, long season of bloom. Did any one notice the lack of Canterbury bells at the show. I think there were only two specimens shown, both in the dark blue—and there are such beautiful shades of them in the delicate colors. If you wish them for next season the seeds should be put in now. They require a long growing season before coming into bloom and snails and slugs devour many of them.

Dahlias, Chrysanthemums and Gladiolus, of course, are all being looked after to give their wealth of bloom. May and June are not dull months by any means in the well cared for gardens, and irrigation with cultivation afterwards are the chief requisites.

JUNE WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO

With June comes the beginning of the dry season in Southern California. In fact, one of the outstanding features of the climate in San Diego during this month is the complete absence of storms and high winds, and this is a period when gales are absolutely unknown. The rainfall, too, is practically negligible, amounts of more than a tenth of an inch having been recorded but six times since the establishment of the station.

It is during this month that high temperatures become of regular occurrence in the interior, resulting in night and early morning cloudiness near the coast. In consequence, the range of the thermometer in the 24 hours is usually small, with the monthly range correspondingly low, attested to by the fact that temperatures of over 90 degrees have occurred but six times in the past 52 years, while readings below 50 degrees are unknown.

The nights are still and warm, and open air parties, entertainments, concerts, etc., are planned in increased numbers. Indeed, outdoor activities of all kind increase; the long, pleasant days conducing to work and play under the great blue sky.

DEAN BLAKE,
Meteorologist, Weather Bureau.

THE BIRDS OF OUR GARDEN

By The Early Bird.

An urgent request has been made that I should write in California Garden on this subject. At first I flatly refused, it being the season of the striped headed sparrow when no one could tone down bird remarks so that they could pass the censor, but they have gone somewhere else, no doubt, to continue their devilment and having neither cat nor dog on

the place other birds have assumed that our garden is an appointed refuge. This time I want to deal briefly as an experiment with a certain truculent individual known to me as the sickle billed thrush. In the past he has rendered futile my efforts to grow Tigrdias and our native Calchortas, because his efforts to harvest the bulbs for food have been so much more persistent and successful than mine to plant and grow, but he is death on rose bug larvae and my wife says he sings.

Often in the middle of the night I have been wakened with, "There, don't you hear that sickled-billed thrush"? but so far I have not, still he may sing. Growing bolder as he has become assured of a powerful ally he has built a nest (I say he, because nothing feminine could act as he does) right in a rose bush where every day the whole family pass. He never got off for company, he disdained such a show of manners or fear, that is till his progeny had grown inch-long bills and a ferocity of countenance calculated to keep off strangers, but now he is careless, one of the young hopped out of the nest yesterday and I held a soothing deprecatory finger towards him, but he shrieked aloud and snapped that bill like a turtle is said to and even if I wanted to wipe out the brood I am afraid to and instead shall still eschew bulbs that they fancy.

ROSECROFT BEGONIA SEED

Now available as premium with new subscriptions to California Garden.

TUBEROUS HANGING BASKET. The entire crop of 1923 which was, however, a light one.

TUBEROUS SINGLE. A fine lot saved from big blooms of good color.

PINK SEA SHELL BEDDER. White-edged pink; very vigorous.

WHITE SEA SHELL. White sport, of the last occurring at Rosecroft; much praised by professionals.

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